

## Northern Region Quality Improvement Committee

Meeting Dates:	April, 2009 May, 2009 June, 2009	Review and Action Plan	Follow-up
Dash Board Items/ Studies:	<u>April 22, 2009</u> <u>Foster Parent Recruitment</u>	<u>April 22, 2009</u> Discussion took place regarding the recruitment process for foster parents. If a family calls the Foster Care Foundation inquiring about becoming a foster parent, a recruiter will find out their motivation and will send them a packet with detailed information on the process. If they are still interested in becoming a FP, they will be invited to attend the next training. The trainer from the Utah Foster Care Foundation says his classes emphasis that the goal is reunification, but if that is not possible then adoption would be the goal. He tries hard to help potential foster parents realize and try to understand what it is like from the child's perspective regarding living in a foster home. Someone from the Office of Licensing will go to the home once the training is complete to do a home study. They will discuss why they want to become a foster parent in hopes of identifying those that may not be doing it for the 'right reasons'. Once the decision is made to license them, a resource family consultant is assigned to the foster parents. They are there to help bring out the best in them as foster parents and help make decision which children are best suited for that home. Sometimes foster parents may have unrealistic expectations and the RFC is	

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	<u>May 27, 2009</u>	<p>there as a resource to them, answer questions, etc.</p> <p><u>May 27, 2009</u></p> <p>Discussion regarding barriers to permanency. Some barriers to children returning home may be that the family members are struggling with court orders, IE., counseling, drug treatment, etc. Transportation is also a barrier a lot of the time.</p> <p>Foster parents should be given more information regarding the case when they are asked to attend family team meetings. Many times they feel left out of the loop. Foster parents should be thinking more at the beginning of a placement in their home about the permanent outcome for the children, whether it be adoption or the child going back home.</p>	
Public Relations:	<u>June 24, 2009</u>	<p><u>June 24, 2009</u></p> <p>Marcella Martinez, a member of the Ogden City School District, attended this months meeting. She reports that she works very closely with many Spanish speaking families in the community that are struggling trying to keep their children in their homes. A lot of these families are illegal immigrants but whose children were born here. She tries to help them find housing, medical resources,</p>	

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		financial aid, etc. She helps them work through many of the road blocks they may encounter. She is very willing to work closely with our DCFS workers as well.	
<b>CPS Issues:</b>	<u>April 22, 2009</u>	<u>April 22, 2009</u> Handed out copies of the quarterly data. Asked the committee to take it home and be ready to discuss it during the May meeting.	<u>May 27, 2009</u> Discussed several areas of the data. During this quarter there were no CPS concerns.
<b>QCR Participation:</b>	QCR Results <u>April 22, 2009</u>	<u>April 22, 2009</u> The Northern region had many fantastic scores this year. We did very well in the permanency area as well. Unfortunately, the systems side didn't do so well. We had 4 cases that failed safety. Will be discussing the results with OSR during the July meeting.	
	QCR Participation <u>April 22, 2009</u>	<u>April 22, 2009</u> Eight members of the QI committee participated in the review this year. All reported on the incredible experience it was for them and encouraged other committee members to participate next year if possible.	
<b>Fatality Review:</b>	None.		

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Other Business:	<p>Priority Focus Areas</p> <p><u>April 22, 2009</u></p> <p><u>Next Project-Foster Parent Disruptions</u></p>	<p><u>April 22, 2009</u></p> <p>The committee talked about possibly having the next project focus on foster parent disruptions/situations. A small subcommittee was put together and will come back next month with specific data in this area. Also find out the number of disruptions that took place in a twelve month period.</p>	<p><u>May 27, 2009</u></p> <p>The subcommittee has created a survey which will be sent to foster parents who have disrupted a placement they had. The Utah Foster Care Foundation has a survey that they send to foster parents who have decided to no longer be foster parents. This subcommittee will focus more on why a placement disrupted.</p> <p><u>June 24, 2009</u></p> <p>The subcommittee has found out which children had disruptions and will be picking 5 of those cases to see why those foster parents chose to disrupt the placement. Some feedback the committee has already received includes not enough disclosure regarding the child. Because DCFS is now trying to bypass a shelter placement, most times the workers have very little information to share with the potential foster family prior to placement Another area of concern was the need for more training for placements that have serious medical needs.</p> <p>Not only does the child need treatment but their entire family situation needs</p>

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			<p>help as well.</p> <p>The subcommittee will report again next month on the information they've received from the 5 cases that were chosen.</p>